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FROM PAAIR TO APOIN-C/GC

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Parago interviewed 13 Apr 51 in Munich by Grever and G-2 USAF representative posing as civ employee AF Section rear radnre dtd 041956Z and our P0453 of 13 Apr. Parago professes to head Hungarian desk in Radio Free Europe at Munich, his interests in Hungarian refugees and exile groups thus far propaganda purposes. Incidentally Parago not yet US citizen. His proposal basically sound if attainable is to split off Intel Collection Gp for ZAKO, place gp under Parago's control operating behind "front" organization "Fighters for a Democratic Hungary". Plan envisages reactivation KOPJAS gp allegedly numbering 35,000 in Hungary (formed by ZAKO and SKORENY), contacting resident agts via courier. ZAKO claims KOPJAS gp not compromised, anti-communist since Jan 1945, complete roster in his possession. Parago convinced ZAKO has couriers currently travelling back and forth to Hungary, believes he can gain control of couriers.

You presumably aware ZAKO gp repudiated by Hungarian Natl Council in New York, as ZAKO reputedly Arrow Cross Fascist and anti-semitic (which he denies). Parago claims able gain Hungarian Natl Council support of ZAKO for "expediency". Have reason to believe he cannot do this. Fact U.S. State Dept given at least de facto support to Hungarian Natl Council makes situation delicate. Parago now in U.S., returning here o/a 7 May. We told him interested if he can produce results, he plans initiate collection by ZAKO gp on return, will fed us results.

Our chief puzzle at moment why Parago approached AF (claims because KOPJAS gp represents guerrilla force in Hungary capable aggressive action with air support, also potential E and E net). Believe Parago foresees need financial support his planned exploitation. No discussion cost undertaken. Some question here of sponsor of Parago trip to Europe. Was USAF involved? Current opinion is Parago cannot assist our exploitation ZAKO, preferable eliminate Radio Free Europe from any collection activity we wish to control. Our efforts exploit all possible sources info on Hungary continue. Will maintain contact with Parago when and if he returns to see if any info forthcoming. Will appreciate all info you may have re ZAKO to assist activities here. Let you know further re CAS interest in ZAKO to ensure no duplication of effort in exploiting ZAKO.

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F H COLBY, Colonel USAF, Chief AF Sec
PAAIR 2481 AL80

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